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EXAMINER

DELGADO, MICHAEL A

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2144

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/992,511

Applicant(s)

RABBERS ET AL.

Examiner

Michael S. A. Delgado

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the corresponding address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 18 June 2002.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-60 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-60 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 05 November 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>1/28/2002</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claims 1-41, 43-46, 48-51, 53-56, 58-60 and are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being anticipated by US Patent No. 6,477,543 by Huang.

In claim 1, Huang teaches about a method, comprising:

establishing a connection between a server “Replica Host” and a synchronization client “Synchronization Proxy” associated with a handheld device “Client”, the server having a first database (data store in 402) and the handheld device having a second database (data store in 202), the handheld device having an application to allow a user to access the second database, wherein the synchronization client to use the connection in a synchronization operation of the second database and the first database (Col 1, lines 50-60) (Col 7, lines 25-30) (Col 7, lines 45-55) (Col 8, lines 10-20) (Col 8, lines 55-65) (Col 9, lines 29-33);

receiving, from the server, first information indicative of a structure “format” of the first database (Col 8, lines 20-35) (Col 13, lines 35-45); This information is embedded in the sync logic that is past to synchronization proxy.

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receiving, from the server, second information indicative of a version of the application from the server (Col 13, lines 35-45) (Col 14, lines 20-30); This information is embedded in the sync logic that is past to synchronization proxy.

sending, to the server, information of transactions performed on the second database by a user via the handheld device (Col 13, lines 50-60);

receiving metadata from the server to update the application on the handheld device when the application has been updated since a previous synchronization operation (Col 13, lines 40-50); and (metadata information that convey the adjustment moving from a high resolution to a Handheld Palm Pilot screen).

receiving, from the server, data extracted from the second database to update the second database (Col 13, lines 50-60).

In claim 2, Huang teaches about a method of claim 1, further comprising determining whether the structure of the first database has been updated since the previous synchronization operation (Col 13, lines 50-60) (Col 14, lines 20-30).

In claim 3, Huang teaches about a method of claim 2, wherein determining whether the structure of the first database has been updated since the previous synchronization operation, comprises:

comparing the first information with information stored on the handheld device that is indicative of the structure of the first database when the previous synchronization operation was performed (Col 13, lines 50-60) (Col 14, lines 20-30).

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In claim 4, Huang teaches about a method of claim 2, wherein receiving, from the server, data extracted from the first database to update the second database, comprises:

receiving, from the server, a first set of data extracted from the first database when the structure of the first database has been updated since the previous synchronization operation, the first set of data including data that has not changed in the second database since the previous synchronization operation was performed (Col 10, lines 15-25) (Col 13, lines 35-45) (Col 13, lines 50-60). Steps involve when updating email from a Lotus Notes source.

In claim 5, Huang teaches about a method of claim 2, wherein receiving, from the server, data extracted from the first database to update the second database, comprises:

receiving, from the server, a second set of data extracted from the first database when the structure of the first database has not been updated since the previous synchronization operation, the second set of data not including data that has not changed in the second database since the previous synchronization operation was performed (Col 10, lines 15-25) (Col 13, lines 50-60). Steps involve when updating an address book application.

In claim 6, Huang teaches about a method of claim 1, further comprising determining whether the application has been updated since the previous synchronization operation (Col 13, lines 50-60).

In claim 7, Huang teaches about a method of claim 6, wherein determining whether the application has been updated since the previous synchronization operation, comprises:

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comparing the second information with information stored on the handheld device that is indicative of the version of the application when the previous synchronization operation was performed (Col 13, lines 50-60) (Col 14, lines 20-30).

In claim 8, Huang teaches about a method of claim 1, wherein sending, to the server, information of transactions performed on the second database, comprises:

receiving, from the server, an identifier of information of a last transaction received by the server (Col 14, lines 20-30); and

sending, to the server, transaction information that includes an identifier for each transaction “update history” made after the last transaction received by the server (Col 14, lines 20-30).

In claim 9, Huang teaches about a method of claim 8, wherein sending to the server information of transactions performed on the second database, further comprises:

receiving, from the server, error information when the server detects a transaction error (Col 14, lines 35-40);

providing an indication of the error information to a user (Col 14, lines 12-18); and

receiving input from the user to process the transaction error (Col 14, lines 12-18).

In claim 10, Huang teaches about a method of claim 1, further comprising sending filter information to the server before receiving data from the server to update the second database, the filter information to be used by the server in providing data to the synchronization client (Col 11, lines 35-45).

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In claim 11, Huang teaches about a system, comprising:

means for establishing a connection between a server “Replica Host” and a synchronization client “Synchronization Proxy” associated with a handheld device “Client”, the server having a first database (data store in 402) and the handheld device having a second database (data store in 202), the handheld device having an application to allow a user to access the second database, wherein the synchronization client to use the connection in a synchronization operation of the second database and the first database (Col 1, lines 50-60) (Col 7, lines 25-30) (Col 7, lines 45-55) (Col 8, lines 10-20) (Col 8, lines 55-65) (Col 9, lines 29-33);

means for receiving, from the server, first information indicative of a structure “format” of the first database (Col 8, lines 20-35) (Col 13, lines 35-45); This information is embedded in the sync logic that is past to synchronization proxy.

means for receiving, from the server, second information indicative of a version of the application from the server (Col 13, lines 35-45) (Col 14, lines 20-30); This information is embedded in the sync logic that is past to synchronization proxy.

means for sending, to the server, information of transactions performed on the second database by a user via the handheld device (Col 13, lines 50-60);

means for receiving metadata from the server to update the application on the handheld device when the application has been updated since a previous synchronization operation (Col 13, lines 40-50); and (metadata information that convey the adjustment moving from a high resolution to a Handheld Palm Pilot screen).

means for receiving, from the server, data extracted from the second database to update the second database (Col 13, lines 50-60).

In claim 12, Huang teaches about a system of claim 11, further comprising means for determining whether the structure of the first database has been updated since the previous synchronization operation (Col 13, lines 50-60) (Col 14, lines 20-30).

In claim 13, Huang teaches about a system of claim 12, wherein the means for determining, comprises:

means for comparing the first information with information stored on the handheld device that is indicative of the structure of the first database when the previous synchronization operation was performed (Col 13, lines 50-60) (Col 14, lines 20-30).

In claim 14, Huang teaches about a system of claim 12, wherein means for receiving, from the server, data extracted from the first database to update the second database, comprises:

means for receiving, from the server, a first set of data extracted from the first database when the structure of the first database has been updated since the previous synchronization operation, the first set of data including data that has not changed in the second database since the previous synchronization operation was performed (Col 10, lines 15-25) (Col 13, lines 35-45) (Col 13, lines 50-60). Steps involve when updating email from a Lotus Notes source.

In claim 15, Huang teaches about a system of claim 12, wherein the means for receiving, from the server, data extracted from the first database to update the second database, comprises:

means for receiving, from the server, a second set of data extracted from the first database when the structure of the first database has not been updated since the previous

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synchronization operation, the second set of data not including data that has not changed in the second database since the previous synchronization operation was performed (Col 10, lines 15-25) (Col 13, lines 50-60). Steps involve when updating an address book application.

In claim 16, Huang teaches about a system of claim 11, further comprising means for determining whether the application has been updated since the previous synchronization operation (Col 13, lines 50-60).

In claim 17, Huang teaches about a system of claim 16, wherein the means for determining whether the application has been updated since the previous synchronization operation, comprises:

means for comparing the second information with information stored on the handheld device that is indicative of the version of the application when the previous synchronization operation was performed (Col 13, lines 50-60) (Col 14, lines 20-30).

In claim 18, Huang teaches about a system of claim 11, wherein the means for sending, to the server, information of transactions performed on the second database, comprises:

means for receiving, from the server, an identifier of information of a last transaction received by the server (Col 14, lines 20-30); and

means for sending, to the server, transaction information that includes an identifier for each transaction "update history" made after the last transaction received by the server (Col 14, lines 20-30).

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In claim 19, Huang teaches about a system of claim 18, wherein the means for sending to the server information of transactions performed on the second database, further comprises:

means for receiving, from the server, error information when the server detects a transaction error (Col 14, lines 35-45);

means for providing an indication of the error information to a user (Col 14, lines 12-18);
and

means for receiving input from the user to process the transaction error (Col 14, lines 12-18).

In claim 20, Huang teaches about a system of claim 11, further comprising means for sending filter information to the server before receiving data from the server to update the second database, wherein the filter information to be used by the server in providing data to the synchronization client (Col 11, lines 35-45).

In claim 21, Huang teaches about a machine-readable medium having stored thereon a plurality of instructions that when executed by a computer cause the computer to perform operations comprising (Col 26, lines 38-50):

establishing a connection between a server "Replica Host" and a synchronization client "Synchronization Proxy" associated with a handheld device "Client", the server having a first database (data store in 402) and the handheld device having a second database (data store in 202), the handheld device having an application to allow a user to access the second database, wherein the synchronization client to use the connection in a synchronization operation of the

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second database and the first database (Col 1, lines 50-60) (Col 7, lines 25-30) (Col 7, lines 45-55) (Col 8, lines 10-20) (Col 8, lines 55-65) (Col 9, lines 29-33);

receiving, from the server, first information indicative of a structure “format” of the first database (Col 8, lines 20-35) (Col 13, lines 35-45); This information is embedded in the sync logic that is past to synchronization proxy.

receiving, from the server, second information indicative of a version of the application from the server (Col 13, lines 35-45) (Col 14, lines 20-30); This information is embedded in the sync logic that is past to synchronization proxy.

sending, to the server, information of transactions performed on the second database by a user via the handheld device (Col 13, lines 50-60);

receiving metadata from the server to update the application on the handheld device when the application has been updated since a previous synchronization operation (Col 13, lines 40-50); and (metadata information that convey the adjustment moving from a high resolution to a Handheld Palm Pilot screen).

receiving, from the server, data extracted from the second database to update the second database (Col 13, lines 50-60).

In claim 22, Huang teaches about a machine-readable medium of claim 21, wherein the plurality of instructions further comprise instructions that when executed by the computer cause the computer to perform operations comprising:

determining whether the structure of the first database has been updated since the previous synchronization operation (Col 13, lines 50-60) (Col 14, lines 20-30).

In claim 23, Huang teaches about a machine-readable medium of claim 22, wherein the instructions for performing the operation of determining whether the structure of the first database has been updated since the previous synchronization operation, include instructions that when executed by the computer cause the computer to perform operations comprising:

comparing the first information with information stored on the handheld device that is indicative of the structure of the first database when the previous synchronization operation was performed (Col 13, lines 50-60) (Col 14, lines 20-30).

In claim 24, Huang teaches about a machine-readable medium of claim 22, wherein the instructions for performing the operation of receiving, from the server, data extracted from the first database to update the second database, include instructions that when executed by the computer cause the computer to perform operations comprising:

receiving, from the server, a first set of data extracted from the first database when the structure of the first database has been updated since the previous synchronization operation, the first set of data including data that has not changed in the second database since the previous synchronization operation was performed (Col 10, lines 15-25) (Col 13, lines 35-45) (Col 13, lines 50-60). Steps involve when updating email from a Lotus Notes source.

In claim 25, Huang teaches about a machine-readable medium of claim 22, wherein the instructions for performing the operation of receiving, from the server, data extracted from the first database to update the second database, include instructions that when executed by the computer cause the computer to perform operations comprising:

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receiving, from the server, a second set of data extracted from the first database when the structure of the first database has not been updated since the previous synchronization operation, the second set of data not including data that has not changed in the second database since the previous synchronization operation was performed (Col 10, lines 15-25) (Col 13, lines 50-60).

Steps involve when updating an address book application.

In claim 26, Huang teaches about a machine-readable medium of claim 21, wherein the plurality of instructions further comprises instructions that when executed by the computer cause the computer to perform operations comprising:

determining whether the application has been updated since the previous synchronization operation (Col 13, lines 50-60).

In claim 27, Huang teaches about a machine-readable medium of claim 26, wherein the instructions for performing the operation of determining whether the application has been updated since the previous synchronization operation, include instructions that when executed by the computer cause the computer to perform operations comprising:

comparing the second information with information stored on the handheld device that is indicative of the version of the application when the previous synchronization operation was performed (Col 13, lines 50-60) (Col 14, lines 20-30).

In claim 28, Huang teaches about a machine-readable medium of claim 21, wherein the instructions for performing the operation of sending, to the server, information of transactions performed on the second database, include instructions that when executed by the computer cause the computer to perform operations comprising:

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receiving, from the server, an identifier of information of a last transaction received by the server (Col 14, lines 20-30); and

sending, to the server, transaction information that includes an identifier for each transaction “update history” made after the last transaction received by the server (Col 14, lines 20-30).

In claim 29, Huang teaches about a machine-readable medium of claim 28, wherein the instructions for sending to the server information of transactions performed on the second database, include instructions that when executed by the computer cause the computer to perform operations comprising:

receiving, from the server, error information when the server detects a transaction error (Col 14, lines 35-40);

providing an indication of the error information to a user (Col 14, lines 12-18); and receiving input from the user to process the transaction error (Col 14, lines 12-18).

In claim 30, Huang teaches about a machine-readable medium of claim 21, wherein the plurality of instructions further include instructions that when executed by the computer cause the computer to perform operations comprising:

sending filter information to the server before receiving data from the server to update the second database, the filter information to be used by the server in providing data to the synchronization client (Col 11, lines 35-45).

In claim 31, Huang teaches about a handheld device, comprising (Fig 2):
a local database (Fig 2, 202);
a user interface (key pad on handheld) coupled to the local database (Col 1, lines 50-60);
a transaction recorder coupled to the local database, wherein the transaction recorder to record information related to changes made to the local database by a user of the handheld device via the user interface and to provide the recorded information to a server during a synchronization operation (Col 14, lines 20-30);

a metadata importer (sync logic combine with transformation code) coupled to the user interface, wherein the metadata importer to receive metadata from the server during the synchronization operation, the metadata including information for updating the user interface (the display)(Col 13, lines 40-50); and

a data importer coupled to the local database, wherein the data importer to receive data provided by the server during the synchronization operation, the data being extracted from a main database by the server (Col 13, lines 35-50).

In claim 32, Huang teaches about a handheld device of claim 31, wherein the data importer further to provide updated filter information to the server during the synchronization operation, the filter information used by the server in providing the data (Col 11, lines 35-45).

In claim 33, Huang teaches about a handheld device of claim 31, wherein the data importer further to determine whether a structure of the main database has been changed since previous synchronization operation (Col 13, lines 50-60).

In claim 34, Huang teaches about a handheld device of claim 33, wherein the data importer to receive an identifier corresponding to the structure of the main database and compare the received identifier with a stored identifier corresponding to the structure of the main database when the previous synchronization operation was performed (Col 13, lines 40-45) (Col 13, lines 50-60).

In claim 35, Huang teaches about a handheld device of claim 33, wherein the data importer to receive a first set of data extracted from the main database by the server when the structure of the main database has changed since the previous synchronization operation, the first set of data including data that has not changed in the local database since the previous synchronization operation was performed (Col 10, lines 15-25) (Col 13, lines 35-45) (Col 13, lines 50-60). Steps involve when updating email from a Lotus Notes source.

In claim 36, Huang teaches about a handheld device of claim 33, wherein the data importer to receive a second set of data extracted from the main database by the server when the structure of the main database has not changed since the previous synchronization operation, the second set of data omitting data that has not changed in the local database since the previous synchronization operation was performed (Col 10, lines 15-25) (Col 13, lines 50-60). Steps involve when updating an address book application..

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In claim 37, Huang teaches about a handheld device of claim 31, wherein the metadata importer to determine whether the user interface has been updated since the previous synchronization operation (Col 13, lines 50-60).

In claim 38, Huang teaches about a handheld device of claim 37, wherein the metadata importer to receive version information of a most currently available user interface and to compare the received version information with version information corresponding to the user interface included in the handheld device (Col 13, lines 50-60) (Col 14, lines 20-30).

In claim 39, Huang teaches about a handheld device of claim 31, wherein the transaction recorder to receive from the server an identifier of a last transaction recorded by the transaction for which transaction information was received by the server from the handheld device and to send to the server transaction information that includes an identifier for each transaction made after the last transaction (Col 13, lines 50-60) (Col 14, lines 20-30).

In claim 40, Huang teaches about a handheld device of claim 39, wherein the transaction recorder to receive from the server error information when the server detects a transaction error, to provide an indication of the error information to a user, and to receive input from the user to process the transaction error (Col 14, lines 12-25) (Col 14, lines 35-40).

In claim 41, Huang teaches about a method, comprising:

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establishing a connection between a server “Replica Host” and a synchronization client “Synchronization Proxy” associated with a handheld device “Client”, the server having a first database (data store in 402) and the handheld device having a second database (data store in 202), the handheld device having an application to allow a user to access the second database, wherein the synchronization client to use the connection in a synchronization operation of the second database and the first database (Col 1, lines 50-60) (Col 7, lines 25-30) (Col 7, lines 45-55) (Col 8, lines 10-20) (Col 8, lines 55-65) (Col 9, lines 29-33);

receiving first filter information (first application on the list) from the server, the first filter information including at least one business object “address book”, each business object having an associated set of filters (name, phone number, address, email, etc) (Col 10, lines 10-25) (Col 11, lines 35-45) ;

retrieving second filter information stored on the handheld device, the second filter information including at least one business object, each business object having an associated filter that was active during a previous synchronization operation (Col 10, lines 10-25) (Col 11, lines 35-45) (Col 13, lines 50-60); (updating address book with new changes).

processing the first filter and second filter information to select active filters (Col 11, lines 35-45) (Col 13, lines 50-60); (This is the process of deciding which subset of data is most current).

storing the processed filter information to serve as the second filter information for a next synchronization operation (Col 11, lines 35-45) (Col 13, lines 50-60) ; and

sending the processed filter information to the server during the synchronization operation (Col 11, lines 35-45) (Col 13, lines 50-60).

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In claim 43, Huang teaches about a method of claim 41, wherein processing the first filter and second filter information to select active filters, comprises:

for each business object included in the first filter information, selecting a default filter (transformation code) associated with the business object in the first filter information as the business objects active filter (Col 10, lines 20-30) (Col 11, lines 33-45);

each business object and associated filter in the second filter information that is also included in the first filter information, selecting the associated filter of the second filter information as the business object's active filter (Col 13, lines 50-60).

In claim 44, Huang teaches about a method of claim 43, wherein selecting a default filter associated with the business object in the first filter information as the business object's active filter, comprises:

forming a linked list of each business object and its associated set of filters (Col 3, lines 20-30) (Col 11, lines 33-45); and

for each business object of the first filter information, selecting a first found default filter as the business object's active filter (Col 10, lines 20-30) (Col 11, lines 35-45).

In claim 45, Huang teaches about a method of claim 44, wherein selecting the associated filter of the second filter information as the business object's active filter, comprises:

for each business object of the second filter information, determining whether the business object and its associated filter in the second filter information is also present in the linked list (Col 8, lines 40-45); and

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for each business object and associated filter of the second filter information that is present in the linked list, selecting the associated filter of the second filter information as the active filter (Col 13, lines 50-60).

In claim 46, Huang teaches about a system, comprising:

means for establishing a connection between a server "Replica Host" and a synchronization client "Synchronization Proxy" associated with a handheld device "Client", the server having a first database (data store in 402) and the handheld device having a second database (data store in 202), the handheld device having an application to allow a user to access the second database, wherein the synchronization client to use the connection in a synchronization operation of the second database and the first database (Col 1, lines 50-60) (Col 7, lines 25-30) (Col 7, lines 45-55) (Col 8, lines 10-20) (Col 8, lines 55-65) (Col 9, lines 29-33);

means for receiving first filter information (first application on the list) from the server, the first filter information including at least one business object "address book", each business object having an associated set of filters (name, phone number, address, email, etc) (Col 10, lines 10-25) (Col 11, lines 35-45) ;

means for retrieving second filter information stored on the handheld device, the second filter information including at least one business object, each business object having an associated filter that was active during a previous synchronization operation (Col 10, lines 10-25) (Col 11, lines 35-45) (Col 13, lines 50-60); (updating address book with new changes).

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means for processing the first filter and second filter information to select active filters (Col 11, lines 35-45) (Col 13, lines 50-60); (This is the process of deciding which subset of data is most current).

means for storing the processed filter information to serve as the second filter information for a next synchronization operation (Col 11, lines 35-45) (Col 13, lines 50-60) ; and

means for sending the processed filter information to the server during the synchronization operation (Col 11, lines 35-45) (Col 13, lines 50-60).

In claim 48, Huang teaches about a method of claim 41, wherein the means for processing the first filter and second filter information to select active filters, comprises:

means for each business object included in the first filter information, selecting a default filter (transformation code) associated with the business object in the first filter information as the business objects active filter (Col 10, lines 20-30) (Col 11, lines 33-45);

means for each business object and associated filter in the second filter information that is also included in the first filter information, selecting the associated filter of the second filter information as the business object's active filter (Col 13, lines 50-60).

In claim 49, Huang teaches about a method of claim 43, wherein means for selecting a default filter associated with the business object in the first filter information as the business object's active filter, comprises:

forming a linked list of each business object and its associated set of filters (Col 3, lines 20-30) (Col 11, lines 33-45); and

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for each business object of the first filter information, selecting a first found default filter as the business object's active filter (Col 10, lines 20-30) (Col 11, lines 35-45).

In claim 50, Huang teaches about a method of claim 44, wherein the means for selecting the associated filter of the second filter information as the business object's active filter, comprises:

means for each business object of the second filter information, determining whether the business object and its associated filter in the second filter information is also present in the linked list (Col 8, lines 40-45); and

means for each business object and associated filter of the second filter information that is present in the linked list, selecting the associated filter of the second filter information as the active filter (Col 13, lines 50-60).

In claim 51, Huang teaches about a machine-readable medium having stored thereon a plurality of instructions that when executed by a computer cause the computer to perform operations include instructions that when executed by the computer cause the computer to perform operations comprising (Col 26, lines 38-45):

establishing a connection between a server "Replica Host" and a synchronization client "Synchronization Proxy" associated with a handheld device "Client", the server having a first database (data store in 402) and the handheld device having a second database (data store in 202), the handheld device having an application to allow a user to access the second database, wherein the synchronization client to use the connection in a synchronization operation of the

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second database and the first database (Col 1, lines 50-60) (Col 7, lines 25-30) (Col 7, lines 45-55) (Col 8, lines 10-20) (Col 8, lines 55-65) (Col 9, lines 29-33);

receiving first filter information (first application on the list) from the server, the first filter information including at least one business object “address book”, each business object having an associated set of filters (name, phone number, address, email, etc) (Col 10, lines 10-25) (Col 11, lines 35-45) ;

retrieving second filter information stored on the handheld device, the second filter information including at least one business object, each business object having an associated filter that was active during a previous synchronization operation (Col 10, lines 10-25) (Col 11, lines 35-45) (Col 13, lines 50-60); (updating address book with new changes).

processing the first filter and second filter information to select active filters (Col 11, lines 35-45) (Col 13, lines 50-60); (This is the process of deciding which subset of data is most current).

storing the processed filter information to serve as the second filter information for a next synchronization operation (Col 11, lines 35-45) (Col 13, lines 50-60) ; and

sending the processed filter information to the server during the synchronization operation (Col 11, lines 35-45) (Col 13, lines 50-60).

In claim 53, Huang teaches about a machine-readable medium of claim 51, wherein the instructions for performing the operation of processing the first filter and second filter information to select active filters include instructions that when executed by the computer cause the computer to perform operations comprising (Col 26, lines 38-45):

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for each business object included in the first filter information, selecting a default filter (transformation code) associated with the business object in the first filter information as the business objects active filter (Col 10, lines 20-30) (Col 11, lines 33-45);

each business object and associated filter in the second filter information that is also included in the first filter information, selecting the associated filter of the second filter information as the business object's active filter (Col 13, lines 50-60).

In claim 54, Huang teaches about a machine-readable medium of claim 53, wherein the instructions for performing the operation of selecting a default filter associated with the business object in the first filter information as the business object's active filter include instructions that when executed by the computer cause the computer to perform operations comprising (Col 26, lines 38-45):

forming a linked list of each business object and its associated set of filters (Col 3, lines 20-30) (Col 11, lines 33-45); and

for each business object of the first filter information, selecting a first found default filter as the business object's active filter (Col 10, lines 20-30) (Col 11, lines 35-45).

In claim 55, Huang teaches about a machine-readable medium of claim 54, wherein the instructions for performing the operation of selecting the associated filter of the second filter information as the business object's active filter include instructions that when executed by the computer cause the computer to perform operations comprising (Col 26, lines 38-45):

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for each business object of the second filter information, determining whether the business object and its associated filter in the second filter information is also present in the linked list (Col 8, lines 40-45); and

for each business object and associated filter of the second filter information that is present in the linked list, selecting the associated filter of the second filter information as the active filter (Col 13, lines 50-60).

In claim 56, Huang teaches about a handheld device, comprising:

a memory (Fig 2, "storage memory");

a local database (Fig 2, 202);

a user interface (key pad on handheld) coupled to the local database (Col 1, lines 50-60);

a transaction recorder coupled to the local database, wherein the transaction recorder to record information related to changes made to the local database by a user of the handheld device via the user interface and to provide the recorded information to a server during a synchronization operation (Col 14, lines 20-30);

a data importer "sync handler" (Fig 2, 206) coupled to the local database, wherein the data importer to receive data provided by the server during the synchronization operation, and to store the data in the local database, the data being extracted from a main database and filtered by the server before being received by the data importer (Col 8, lines 55-65) (Col 11, lines 5-10) (Col 11, lines 33-45) (Col 13, lines 35-50).

a filter processor coupled to the memory, wherein the filter processor to (Col 11, lines 33-45):

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receive first filter information from the server, the first filter information including at least one business object “address book” , each business object having an associated set of filters (name, address, email, etc) (Col 11, lines 33-45);

retrieve second filter information stored in the memory, the second filter information including at least one business object, each business object having an associated filter that was active during a previous synchronization operation (Col 11, lines 35-45) (Col 13, lines 50-60);

process the first filter and second filter information to select active filters (Col 13, lines 50-60);

store the processed filter information in the memory to serve as the second filter information for a next synchronization operation (Col 13, lines 50-60); and

send the processed filter information to the server during the synchronization operation, the processed filter information to be used by the server in filtering the data extracted from the main database (Col 13, lines 50-60).

In claim 58, Huang teaches about a handheld device of claim 54, wherein in processing the first filter and second filter information to select active filters, the filter processor to:

for each business object included in the first filter information, select a default filter (transformation code) associated with the business object in the first filter information as the business objects active filter (Col 10, lines 20-30) (Col 11, lines 33-45);

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for each business object and associated filter in the second filter information that is also included in the first filter information, select the associated filter of the second filter information as the business object's active filter (Col 13, lines 50-60)..

In claim 59, Huang teaches about a handheld device of claim 58, wherein in selecting a default filter associated with the business object in the first filter information as the business object's active filter, the filter processor to:

form a linked list of each business object and its associated set of filters (Col 3, lines 20-30) (Col 11, lines 33-45); and

for each business object of the first filter information, select a first found default filter as the business object's active filter (Col 10, lines 20-30) (Col 11, lines 35-45).

In claim 60, Huang teaches about a handheld device of claim 59, wherein in selecting the associated filter of the second filter information as the business object's active filter, the filter processor to:

for each business object of the second filter information, determine whether the business object and its associated filter in the second filter information is also present in the linked list (Col 8, lines 40-45); and

for each business object and associated filter of the second filter information that is present in the linked list, selecting the associated filter of the second filter information as the active filter (Col 13, lines 50-60).

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3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claim 42, 47, 52 and 57 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over US Patent No. 6,477,543 by Huang in view of US Patent No. 6,564,263 by Bergman et al.

In claim 42, Huang teaches all the limitation as to the processing of a first and second filter but does not explicitly teach about using XML in accomplishing the task.

Bergman teaches about a method to process multimedia using XML (Col 14, lines 5-30).

In Huang's invention, handheld applications are synchronized by using sync logics and transformation codes (process codes) (Col 8, lines 10-20). The many variation of handheld devices and their applications required a large number of different process codes, which was a burden to manage. As a result, Hung indicated the need for improvement (Col 2, lines 5-25). Bergman teaches an improve way of reducing the number of process codes variations across multiple platforms by using the portability feature of XML (Col 14, lines 10-20). With the portability feature, the same process code can be reused on different platform, which eliminated the need for individual custom-made code. The reduction in the number of process codes simplified the task of managing them.

It would have been obvious at the time of the invention for some one of ordinary skill to use the portability feature of XML and its additional benefit to reduce the number of process codes and the complexity that is need to manage them.

In claim 47, the system of claim 46, wherein the means for processing the first and second filter information comprises:

means for forming an XML document that includes each business object and its associated active filter (Covered in claim 42).

In claim 52, the machine-readable medium of claim 51, wherein the instructions for performing the operation of processing the first and second filter information include instructions that when executed by the computer cause the computer to perform operations comprising:

forming an XML document that includes each business object and its associated active filter (covered in claim 42).

In claim 57, the handheld device of claim 54, wherein the filter processor to form an XML document that includes each business object and its associated active filter.

Conclusion

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

US 2002/0,010,807 by Multer et al, teaches about a data package including synchronization data.

US 2002/0,029,227 by Multer et al, teaches about a management server for a synchronization system.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Michael S. A. Delgado whose telephone number is (571) 272-3926. The examiner can normally be reached on 7.30 AM - 5.30PM.


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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, WILLIAM A CUCHLINSKI JR can be reached on (571) 272-3925 .

The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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